



Brownfields Sites

Bairstow Slag Dump
Brownfields Site 4980037
Active

Bairstow Slag Dump

Hammond, Lake County, Indiana

Revised April 08, 2003

Site Location and Description

5925 Calumet Ave.

Hammond, IN 46320

Site Uses and Past Activities

Industrial development, and the historical stockpiling of millions of tons of steel-mill slag have altered the size, shape, and depth of George Lake. The largest parcel of land immediately south of George Lake is known locally as Bairstow Mountain, due to the large volume of slag present.

Contaminants and Impacts

Lead Agency

IDEM

Community Concerns

While most local residents have supported the golf course development, there has been some opposition because the plan requires filling wetlands around the lake. Some of the golf course holes will be constructed in the shallows around the perimeter of the lake from material dredged from the lake center.

Actions Taken

In order to provide a recreational resource for local residents, and to promote economic development, Hammond is developing the land around, and adjacent to George Lake into two golf courses—a nine-hole youth golf course, and an 18-hole championship course for adults. The Hammond Youth Golf Academy at Lost Marsh is part of the not-for-profit "First Tee" organization. The Academy was designed to provide recreational opportunities and life-skills training to area youths of all social and economic backgrounds at no, or significantly reduced cost. The Academy partners with the Hammond Area YMCA, the public and private schools, and the city's Parks and Recreation Department to provide its services. In addition to tremendous local support, this project received national and international recognition, and was acknowledged in September 2002 at the United Nation's World Summit for Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Current Status

Several parcels of land in the vicinity of George Lake are entered into the IDEM's Voluntary Remediation Program (VRP). Official documents for VRP review have not been submitted.

Construction of the championship golf course is ongoing. Dredge and fill operations to create the perimeter holes will begin this summer. To date, no documents have been submitted to the VRP for review.

The youth golf course is complete, and the championship course is currently under construction.

Future Actions